

Bitterroot Job Service Employers' Committee Meeting Minutes January 16, 2007

Present:

Cindy Beck, Albertson's	Howard Lyons, Ravalli County Commissioner
Becky Brough, Hamilton Schools	Debbie Morris, Marcus Daly Mem. Hospital
Pat Easley, Bitterroot Valley Chamber	Jesse Lohse, Rocky Mountain Truss
Patty West, Office of Public Assistance	Kathleen Cannon-Siegle, Bitterroot JSWC
Patti Furniss, Bitterroot JSWC	Linda Valentine, HRC, WIA Youth
Mark Seitz, First Security Bank	Elaine O'Leary, Bitterroot JSWC
Heather Mousley, Bitterroot JSWC	

Introductions: Introductions were made with business affiliations. A big JSEC welcome was extended to Howard Lyons, our newly elected Ravalli County Commissioner.

Minutes: The December 19, 2006 minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Morris reported the JSEC account balance as \$3,802.53 and noted that, in the future, Job Skills monies will be reported separately.

Job Service Update: Patti announced that we have been approved as a One Stop Center and will have a walk-through with Linda Woods for formal certification the end of this month. Patti explained the meaning of a One Stop Center. There will be a tour of the One Stop Center and all partners will be asked questions from Linda Woods. This also will be an opportunity to ask Linda questions. Patti announced that funding continues to be reduced and other grants have been applied for. We are in a holding pattern for now. She said that Elaine O'Leary will retire the end of February. Patti said that Elaine is an amazing woman with great achievements and praised her 30 years of dedicated service. Elaine was invited to the February JSEC meeting and she accepted! Patti distributed state minimum wage increase information and noted exemptions. Patti recommended a tour of the Hamilton High School and there was consensus. Becky will make arrangements. Kathleen provided Labor Market Information (MT Economy at a Glance) to JSEC members and Patti reported on our unemployment rate and reviewed articles. She informed the committee that the Assistance to Business Clinic (ABC) will be held on May 3rd at the Bitterroot River Inn. This is a fabulous educational opportunity for employers.

Community Job Fair Update: Heather announced that the Community Job Fair will be held on Thursday, April 5th at the Hamilton High School from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Heather distributed a Job Fair report and explained the projected expenses for this year and grant/donation requests. Elaine reported on results from a recent survey regarding the Community Job Fair. Thank you, Elaine and Heather, for your report.

Mission Statement: Becky explained that we don't actually have a mission statement but a statement of objectives. There was much brainstorming suggesting possible inclusions in formalizing a mission statement, i.e., education, training, promotion of awareness, seminars, scholarships, workshops, videos, etc. Members were encouraged to email Becky with additional suggestions.

Seminar Update: Patti discussed the importance of the "Exceptional Customer Service – Part Two" Seminar with Steve Beck and what an opportunity this is for employers and their employees.

Meeting adjourned.